Richmond May 25th 1853

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 23d came to hand yesterday afternoon, and I should have replied immediately, but was unable to see Dr Merritt until to day. You have probably before this received Dr M's letter containing draft &c.

The Dr says that pressing engagements, and absence from the City, must be his excuse for the delay which you complain of. He is a very estimable man, a member of our City council, and commands both the public & private confidence of the community; but like many other ~~professional~~ professional men he does not seem to combine business dispatch with entire reliability, the latter of which he possesses to sufficient extent. He seemed very much gratified at the result of your analysis, and spoke of making you an offer to go in with him in the extraction of the ore.

Mr Faber passed through here about ten days ago but I did not see him although I received a note from him saying that he would see me on his return.

I am informed that the administration are looking upon you with the jealous eyes of democracy watching for an opportunity to apply the bloody knife.

Please remember me to Newton, Barrett & others.

To
Prof: Jas. C. Booth
Lynchburg

Yours truly
J Roberts Baker

May 28th 1853

J Roberts Baker

Richmond

Va.

Prof Jas L. Booth

U S Mint

Philadelphia

Penn:

5/27/53